

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /069 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6802
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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USIA WASHDC
USMISSION USUN

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USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SHUM, CSCE, UR, US
SUBJECT: LITGAZ CASTIGATES U.S. RECORD ON HUMAN RIGHTS, SAKHAROV

1. SUMMARY. LITGAZ HAS PUBLISHED ONE MORE OPUS DESIGNED TO PORTRAY THE U.S. TO SOVIET INTELLECTUALS AS A LAND WHERE FIGHTERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ARE PERSECUTED, IMPRISONED, HUMILIATED, TORTURED, AND SUBJECTED TO FORCED PSYCHIATRIC "TREATMENTS". THEIR SPIRIT, HOWEVER, REMAINS UNBROKEN AND THEY LOOK TO THE SOVIET UNION AS A LAND OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN DIGNITY. SPECIFICALLY, ARTICLE DESCRIBES PLIGHT OF BLACK "FREEDOM FIGHTER" IN A U.S. PRISON WHO WRITES A REPROACHFUL "OPEN LETTER" TO SAKHAROV. END SUMMARY.

2. LITGAZ OF APRIL 27 PUBLISHED AN INTERVIEW BY ITS SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT I. ANDRONOV WITH AN INMATE OF
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NEW YORK'S GREEN HAVEN PRISON. ANDRONOV DESCRIBES PRISON'S "SINISTER REPUTATION" AND GIVES LURID ACCOUNT OF HIS EFFORTS TO SECURE PERMISSION TO INTERVIEW A PRISONER AND THE SECURITY PROCEDURES USED BY PRISON AUTHORITIES DURING MEETING.

3. PRISONER HE FINALLY MET WAS ONE AUGUST HERREL

(PHONETIC) WHO CHANGED HIS NAME TO KARIM AHMED TO DEMONSTRATE HIS REJECTION OF WHITE CULTURE. ASKED WHAT MESSAGE AKHMED WISHED TO SEND TO HIS FELLOW "AFRO-AMERICAN DISSIDENTS" LATTER DECLARED HE HAS RENOUNCED HIS AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP AND AS A RESULT RECEIVED A "THREATENING ANSWER" FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. WHEN RELEASED, HE INTENDS TO MOVE TO ONE OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. AKHMED THEN PROCEEDED TO DESCRIBE VARIOUS HUMILIATIONS, TORTURES, FORCED PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENTS, AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS ENDURED BY HIM AND FELLOW PRISONERS.

4. AHMED IS DESCRIBED AS HAVING WRITTEN TWO LETTERS: ONE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE SOVIET UNION AND CONTAINING POEMS HE HAD COMPOSED DURING HIS IMPRISONMENT, AND THE OTHER AN "OPEN LETTER TO A.D. SAKHAROV", TEXT OF WHICH IS REPRODUCED IN THE ARTICLE. IN THE LETTER, AKHMED DESCRIBES OPPRESSION OF BLACKS IN THE U.S., HOLDS CAPITALIST SYSTEM RESPONSIBLE FOR RACISM AND DISREGARD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, AND REPROACHES SAKHAROV FOR LACKING ELEMENTARY PERCEPTION: "YOU ARE A BLIND MAN, MR. SAKHAROV. IN CONDEMNING YOUR OWN COUNTRY FOR 'VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS', YOU TURN TO THE PRESIDENT OF A COUNTRY WHICH IS ONE OF THE MOST FLAGRANT VIOLATORS OF HUMAN RIGHTS."

5. COMMENT. LITGAZ IS CONTINUING TO GIVE WIDE COVERAGE TO ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN "FREE WORLD". SAME ISSUE ALSO CONTAINS ACCOUNTS OF:
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--ALLEGED INABILITY OF SOVIET JOURNALIST TO FIND COPIES OF HELSINKI FINAL ACT TEXT IN LARGE LIBRARIES OF CANADA AND U.S.;

--HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY BRITISH AUTHORITIES IN ULSTER;

--PHOTOGRAPHS OF TORTURE VICTIMS IN LATIN AMERICA; AND

--PROTEST BY HARRY BRIDGES OVER RECENT REFUSAL OF STATE DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE VISAS TO A SOVIET TRADE UNION DELEGATION. TOON

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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